

In the Claims:

1. (original): A method for determining MAC address for a remote device having a known, unique DEK in a network where devices may not send a confirmation to a *SetNEK* request, the method comprising the steps of:

 preparing a broadcast message with a *SetNEK* request containing a unique, temporary *NEK*;

 encrypting the message with the DEK of the remote device;

 transmitting the broadcast message on a network medium;

 confirming receipt of the temporary *NEK* by sending a request that requires a response from the remote device which is encrypted with the temporary *NEK*;
and

 determining the MAC address of the remote device from the response.

2. (original): The method of Claim 1 wherein the remote device is not a member of a network.

3. (original): The method of Claim 2 further comprising the step of using the MAC address of the remote device in a unicast transmission to reliably confirm receipt of the temporary *NEK*.

4. (original): The method of Claim 3 further comprising the step of using the MAC address of the remote device in a unicast transmission containing a *SetNEK* message with the local NEK.

5. (original): The method of Claim 4 further comprising the step of using the MAC address of the remote device in an additional unicast transmission which is encrypted with the local *NEK*, for purposes of confirming receipt of the local *NEK*.

6. (original): The method of Claim 2 further comprising the steps of:

- using the determined MAC address to reliably send the local *NEK*;
- preparing a unicast message to the remote device containing a *SetNEK* request where the *SetNEK* request contains a unique, temporary *NEK*;
- encrypting the unicast message with the DEK of the remote device;
- transmitting the unicast message on the medium; and
- confirming receipt of the temporary *NEK* by sending a request that requires a response which is encrypted with the temporary *NEK*.

7. (original): The method recited in Claim 1, wherein the network is a powerline network.

In re Patent Application of:
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Serial No. 10/669,097
Filing Date: **September 23, 2003**

8. (original): The method recited in Claim 1, wherein the remote devices are implemented according to the HomePlug Powerline Alliance standard.

9. (original): The method of Claim 1 wherein the request is a request statistics MME and the response is a statistic response MME.

10. (original): The method of Claim 1 wherein the request is a request channel estimation MME and the response is a channel estimation response.